

Doctor of Laws honoris causa

June 18, 2009

Treasurer, may I present to you and this convocation Madam Justice Harriet Sachs and request that you confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

Harriet Sachs has been and is seen to be a pioneer and role model for women in the legal profession. She was one of the founders of the first all-woman firm in Ontario and for 22 years, before her appointment to the Superior Court of Justice, she practised in the areas of family law, civil litigation and human rights.

Elected a Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada in 1995, she was Co-Chair of the Bicentennial Report on Equity Initiatives in the Legal Profession. That report summarized the work of the Law Society to promote equity and diversity in the legal profession and the challenges of doing so going forward.

Twelve years after its release, the Society continues to reflect upon the issues it raised and to measure the progress of women lawyers by its benchmarks.

Madam Justice Harriet Sachs is deserving of this honour. I request you, Sir, to confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.